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Cardiff Rural District Council.

Annual Report

for the Year

1925

By RICHARD PRICHARD, M.D., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

CARDIFF:
A. McLAY & Co., LTD., Ely Factory.
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To the Chairman and Members.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my report for 1925. In a circular recently issued by the Ministry of Health, Welsh Board of Health, it is requested that the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health should be a Survey Report, which should deal comprehensively with

- (a) The measure of progress made in the area during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health ;
- (b) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area (*e.g.*, housing, water supply, sewerage, scavenging or refuse disposal, food inspection or other services affecting the environment of the inhabitants ; and maternity and child welfare schemes, provision of isolation hospitals, or other services directed to the prevention or cure of disease in individuals) ;
- (c) Any further action of importance in the organisation or development of public health services contemplated by the Local Authority or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health.

It is further suggested that these subjects might be treated under certain main heads.

1. Natural and Social Conditions of the area.

A comparison of those in 1921 with those obtaining now is not easy, because on November 9th, 1922, the parish of Llandaff and portions of six others were transferred to the City of Cardiff by Act of Parliament, and then the old name of Llandaff and Dinas Powis Rural District was changed to that of Cardiff Rural District.

In 1921 the area of the old district was 65,299 acres, exclusive of land covered by water ; and the census population was 42,122, of whom 20,454 were males and 21,668 females.

The area of the present District is approximately 59,915 acres, and the Registrar General's estimate of the population in the middle of last year was 25,270 souls. The actual number is, in my opinion, much in excess of the above.

TABLE I.

LIST OF PARISHES IN THE DISTRICT.

Parishes	Area	Population		Rateable Value Lady Day 1925	Assessable Value Lady Day 1925
		Census, 1921	Estimated 1925		
Bonvilston	1,280	186	1,280	£ 1,717	£ 1,235
Lavernock	649	220	672	6,653	6,446
Leckwith	978	99	108	1,153	908
Lisvane	2,763	611	647	10,082	8,872
Llancarfan	4,725	494	512	6,171	3,959
Llanedarne	2,683	418	499	5,672	4,046
Llanillterne	1,075	191	191	4,997	4,390
Llantrithyd	1,433	130	130	1,851	1,154
Llanfedw	2,453	227	227	2,203	1,640
Llanfythyn	427	24	24	407	233
Michaelstone-le-Pit	1,166	190	199	2,243	1,811
Pendoylan	3,579	414	423	6,211	4,880
Penmark	3,360	757	858	11,354	10,135
Pentyrch	3,939	2,444	2,516	14,656	14,017
Peterston-super-Ely	2,171	416	421	9,658	8,629
Porthkerry	967	397	402	7,240	6,914
Radyr	1,630	1,364	1,464	25,461	24,613
Rhydygwern	722	237	237	636	565
Rudry	2,668	606	606	3,650	3,347
St. Andrews	3,186	2,526	2,742	25,944	24,529
St. Brides-super-Ely	601	139	155	3,218	2,814
St. Fagans	2,488	496	506	14,735	13,650
St. Georges	1,024	300	300	5,875	5,475
St. Lythans	1,284	94	94	1,543	964
St. Nicholas	2,172	405	405	4,460	3,462
Sully	1,021	575	661	4,366	3,807
Van	861	500	505	5,063	4,800
Welsh St. Donatts	2,263	213	213	2,198	1,394
Wenvoe	3,440	495	510	14,714	13,389
Whitchurch	2,907	7,528	9,303	63,888	62,437
	59,915	22,696	26,810	268,019	244,415

It will be seen from the above Table that the District is composed of thirty parishes which vary greatly in area and population. It is an irregular oblong territory extending from Rudry on the north-east to Aberthaw on the Bristol Channel, a distance of about 18 miles, and is about 8 miles at its widest part. On the south it lies to landward of the City of Cardiff, the Urban Districts of Penarth and Barry. Along the western boundary are the Cowbridge Rural and Urban Districts, and the Llantrisant and Llantwit Vardre districts; on the North from the Taff river it is contiguous with the Caerphilly Urban District as far as the Rumney river, which forms its eastern boundary, and which divides the County of Glamorgan from that of Monmouth.

From its proximity to the above populous centres and to the mining areas to the North, many of their workers make their homes in this district, and derive part of their sustenance from it. These facts have always been fully appreciated by your Council in the task of your administration as guardians of public health. The district includes sections of the three most important valleys and rivers in Glamorganshire, viz., the Ely on the West, the Taff and Rumney on the North. It is of an undulating character, with natural declivity towards the rivers, and hence lends itself readily to effectual drainage. The ground rises on the North to 84 feet above Ordnance datum at Whitchurch, to about 225 feet at Lisvane, and then rapidly to 900 feet on Cefn-On hill. To the West of the Taff it rises to about 150 feet at Radyr village, to nearly 500 feet at Pentyrch village, to 600 at Penygarn and then to 1,000 feet on the Garth hill. The "Vale of Glamorgan" lies to the South-West. That part of it within your district dips into the Ely valley, and then rises abruptly to about 400 feet at St. Nicholas and Bonvils' on, thence it slopes gradually towards the Bristol channel. Geologically the outcrop of the coal measures appears along the northern boundary, but the district generally rests on rocks of various ages, including mountain limestone, dolomite limestone, conglomerate, lower lias, etc.

The Rural District is mainly agricultural, but increasingly residential. It also contains several important industries, such as large railway works, four cement works, colliery, a number of brickworks and quarries, two tinplate factories, and also a number of factories and workshops peculiar to most agricultural areas. Special efforts are always made to provide wholesome water and healthful surroundings and conveniences for the workmen employed in these occupations.

The most important public institutions remaining in this area are the Cardiff and Barry Truant School at Dinas Powis, and the Cardiff City Mental Hospital for the treatment of the insane, at Whitchurch.

There are no reliable statistics available which point to harmful influence on health of any particular occupation of the workers. The tinplate workers usually look pale and sallow, but they are sinewy. They are exposed to great variations of temperatures with accompanying profuse perspirations, and there is risk of inhaling metallic dust. Complaints have been received from time to time of dust from cement works at Rhose when the winds are in a certain direction. The main works are to the south-east of the village, and fortunately the prevailing winds are south-westerly. The fields to the East in the vicinity of the works are almost black with dust, while the outside of the houses in the village are begrimed with it after a spell of easterly winds. This condition appears to be due to dust from the coal-crushing shed escaping into the air. Although I have no evidence of it being injurious to health, it is a nuisance, and could be abated by some arrangement of spraying. In this way a good deal of coal that escapes could be recovered.

VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1925.

BIRTHS.

Total 467, viz. : 231 males and 236 females. This figure is 19 more than the previous year. It amounts to a rate of 18.49 per thousand inhabitants as compared with 18.3 for all England and Wales. Of the above 455 were born in wedlock, and twelve (6 males and 6 females) were illegitimate. The latter are equal to 2.5 per cent. of the total births.

Under the Notification of Births Act, 1907, only 448 were reported to me, the remaining seven were probably born outside your District. It is not unusual for a young mother to go to her old home, especially for her first confinement. Further, an increasing number of mothers are confined every year in private and the Royal Infirmary Nursing Homes, and it is possible that the notifications may not be transferred to me. Of the above only two were reported by the parent, 22 by the doctor, 374 by the midwives in attendance, 26 by the Registrars, while 28 were discovered by the health visitors during their routine work. Again the unnotified cases were attended by private nurses who do not reside in this District. A few doctors have to be reminded of their

remissness. The resident nurses and midwives comply with the regulations methodically: they are sometimes a day or two late with their notifications, but that is generally when they are very busy and have no rest. The number of the cases notified to me within 36 hours of birth was 318, or over 66 per cent. of the total births.

DEATHS.

The total deaths registered during the year were 264, viz., 127 males and 137 females; they amount to a mortality of 10.44 per 1000 inhabitants. The death rate for all of England and Wales was 12.2 per 1000 last year.

The number of deaths of individuals belonging to this District which occurred elsewhere was 42, viz., 23 males and 19 females; of these 16 died in general hospitals, 7 in Poor Law Institutions, and 4 in asylums. There were 101 deaths among "non-residents," who were transferred outwards because they did not belong to the District; 43 occurring at the Cardiff City Mental Hospital, Whitchurch, and 43 at Cefn Mably Tuberculous Hospital; most of the latter resided in Monmouthshire.

It is remarkable and, to me, disappointing, that the returns of the deaths sent to me do not nearly correspond with those of the Registrar General. This has happened almost every year in the past, hence I am handicapped in analysing the causes of deaths at various ages.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Twenty-four deaths, an equal number of males and females, were those of infants under one year old. These are equal to a rate of 53 per 1000 births, as against 75 per 1000 for all England and Wales. The County Medical Officer gives the number as 23, and the rate at 49 per 1000 births. They amount to 4.5 per cent. of the total deaths. The death rate of the illegitimate children was 93 per 1000 births. The chief causes of these deaths were: premature birth 5; pneumonia and bronchitis 5; debility 4; enteritis 2; whooping cough 2; and measles 1. With suitable care and nursing doubtless most, if not all, of those young lives would have been saved, for they occurred in cottages with small rooms probably overheated and stuffy. Fourteen deaths occurred within one month of birth.

To what cause or causes are these early deaths attributable? Lowered vitality is the main predisposing agent in that the power of resisting disease is wanting. But we must go a step further back and inquire into the cause of this inertia. Many distinguished scientists have for years been investigating this vital subject, more especially by means of experiments in feeding some of the lower animals on various diets consisting of articles of food in ordinary daily use, but in different combinations. Certain important facts have been definitely elucidated and established. A diet which is deficient in "fat-soluble vitamin" will inevitably bring about a condition of poor health which is evidenced by rickets or defective growth of bones, decayed teeth, liability to chest diseases such as broncho-pneumonia, and to diarrhoea, catarrh and ulcerations of the digestive tract. This essential vitamin is contained in fresh whole milk, butter, cheese, eggs, and in animal and fish fat, especially in cod liver oil, together with a certain amount of cereals such as bread, oatmeal, rice, etc. A diet of cereals alone is not sufficient, but plenty of sunlight seems to go far to make up the deficiency. As we often find in the case of adults some infants have their idiosyncrasies or inability to digest or assimilate certain common articles of diet, and are upset by them. These points have to be studied and taught at Infant Welfare Centres, and may we not claim that the reduced infant mortality of recent years is largely due to this work?

According to my returns seven children, 2 males and 5 females, died between 1 and 2 years of age, viz., 3 due to tubercular diseases, 1 to measles, 1 to enteritis, 1 to influenza, and 1 to convulsions. This age seems to be peculiarly susceptible to infections

TABLE II.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1000 TOTAL POPULATION	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1 000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS			
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years)	Totals under One year	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Unidentified Causes of Death
England and Wales	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1
London	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.1	8.9	0.0
CARDIFF RURAL DISTRICT	18.49	10.44	0.03	0.00	0.15	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.27	0.31	4.2	53			

INFECTIOUS OR CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Notified 1 ; fatal 1 ; death rate 0.03 per 1000. The case notified was a mental patient at a public institution. The fatal case was not notified; the typhoid symptoms supervened on an inflammatory disease of the thigh-bone.

There was no case of SMALL POX.

MEASLES.

Fatal 4 ; 2 males and 2 females ; death rate 0.15 per 1000. Ten cases were notified voluntarily during January, but the outbreak continued throughout the spring months. The fatal cases were very young children.

SCARLET FEVER.

Notified 22 ; fatal none. Three of the cases turned out to be German measles. The cases were in Llanedarne parish 1 ; in Radyr 2 ; Rudry 5 ; St. Andrew 1 ; Sully 1 ; and Whitchurch 12. Except two adults the disease attacked children of early school age mostly, and was of a very mild type.

WHOOPING COUGH.

None notified ; fatal 2, death rate 0.07 per 1000. The deaths were of infants aged one and six months. It is very dangerous to infants unless the best of nursing is available.

DIPHTHERIA.

Notified 14 ; no deaths. Twelve were removed to your hospital ; eight were members of the staff or patients of a large special hospital where the disease was introduced by a " carrier " case.

INFLUENZA.

Fatal, 7 cases ; 3 males and 4 females ; death rate 0.27 per 1000. The disease was fairly prevalent during the first quarter of the year.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Fatal 1 ; death rate 0.03 per 1000. This is sometimes spoken of as "sleepy-sickness," but that should be avoided so as not to confuse it with the African sleeping sickness, a wholly different malady.

In November last a cottager's wife, aged 40 years, had what appeared to be influenza, and a week later the typical symptoms of this disease supervened. The outset is often like that. No likely source of infection could be elicited. As the symptoms of the disease are somewhat anomalous and variable it is possible that cases of this complaint might be mistaken for other more common ones, and there is increasing evidence accumulating that many nervous and other ailments of patients, especially children, are but the sequelae of mild or overlooked cases of encephalitis lethargica.

CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS.

A young married woman fell ill with this complaint in February, and was removed to the Royal Infirmary, whence she was taken to the Isolation Hospital. Careful enquiry failed to trace any likely source of the infection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirty-six cases were notified to me, viz., pulmonary 32 (13 males and 19 females), and non-pulmonary 4 (1 male and 3 females). There died according to my return 19, and Registrar General's 22 (6 males and 16 females) ; non-pulmonary 4 (2 males and 2 females). The death rate from phthisis was .87 per 1000 inhabitants, and 0.15 non-pulmonary.

Fourteen cases were notified by Institution doctors, ten by tuberculosis officers, and twelve by general practitioners. It is evident from the returns of deaths among residents that there are still a number of tubercular cases not notified.

No case has been reported during the year of a tuberculous person being employed in the milk trade in the District, and it has not been necessary to apply for an order for the compulsory removal to hospital of a patient under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925. This is a power for which I have been advocating for many years.

There are two of the Welsh National Memorial Association Hospitals in this area, viz., Glan Ely (now in Cardiff), which has 92 beds for pulmonary cases, and an equal number for non-pulmonary; and Cefn Mably Hospital in Llanvedw parish with 110 beds for pulmonary cases, 54 beds being allocated to men, 46 to women, and 10 to children.

Patients who have returned or are living at home are visited by the Council's health visitors, and disinfection, where necessary, is carried out by your inspectors, and bedding is stoved by them at the Isolation Hospital.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1925 given in the Report in the following form :—

TABLE III.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
10	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
20	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
25	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	4	6	—	2	1	5	—	—
45	4	3	1	—	2	3	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and up- wards	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	13	19	1	3	5	14	2	2

CANCER.

This disease caused 30 deaths, 13 males and 17 females, amounting to a death rate of 1214 per million inhabitants ; only 3 deaths occurred under 40 years, and about an equal number every ten years till eighty. Over two-thirds were located in the digestive tract. It is largely induced by some overlooked chronic irritation such as the scar of a gastric ulcer, constipation, piles, which again are due to indiscretion in diet or over-eating. Hence cancer is often referred to as the disease of civilization and prosperity. There is no doubt whatever that over indulgence after middle life, especially of meat food, is harmful to good health, and does not conduce to longevity.

HEART DISEASE.

Fatal 47 ; 26 males and 21 females ; death rate 1.85 per 1000. It amounts to 17.7 per cent. of all deaths. The heart is the pump which circulates the blood throughout the whole system, and its muscles and internal mechanism are liable to be affected by various poisons which circulate in the blood stream. " Heart disease " is a term often applied too loosely, as many cases of shortness of breath or angina attributed to the heart are really of gastric origin.

DISEASES OF AIR PASSAGES.

Bronchitis 12, 4 males and 8 females ; pneumonia 22, 12 males and 10 females ; other respiratory diseases 6, 4 males and 2 females ; the death rate from all respiratory complaints was 1.50 per 1000. With one exception the cases of bronchitis were either under one year old or upwards of 60 years. Most of the cases of pneumonia were between 40 and 60 years of age, men and women in the prime of life, the period of greatest usefulness. At the risk of boring you I must repeat that it is to be deplored that these poor people were not given a better chance of recovery by proper treatment. By this I mean suitable accommodation in a well-aired room or ward, and good nursing. These ideal conditions are available in the Observation Block of your Isolation Hospital, and it is rarely used. You submitted the question to the Ministry of Health, Welsh Board of Health, and they readily assented to the procedure. That of the Glamorgan County Council has not yet been obtained, although applied for some time ago, but the County Medical Officer has expressed his approval. After all, these inflammatory complaints of the air passage are caused by germs and give rise to more deaths than all the so-called infectious diseases.

DIARRHOEA.

There were only two deaths of children under two years old, which amount to a death rate of 0.07 per 1000.

PUERPERAL DISEASES.

Two young mothers died from diseases complicating pregnancy and parturition. They occurred at institutions outside the District. Two cases of puerperal sepsis were notified, and recovered in hospital.

VIOLENCE.

Suicide 1 (female), and other deaths from violence 7, (5 males and 2 females) ; death rate 0.31 per 1000.

TABLE IV.

CAUSES OF DEATH.							Males	Females
All Causes	....	....	....	....	....	....	127	137
Enteric Fever	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	—
Small Pox	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	2
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Influenza	....	....	....	....	....	....	3	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	....	....	....	....	....	....	6	16
Other Tuberculous Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	13	17
Rheumatic Fever	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	....	3	6
Heart Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	26	21
Arterio-sclerosis	....	....	....	....	....	....	7	4
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	....	....	....	....	....	....	12	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	4	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	5
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	....	....	....	....	....	....	3	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	3
Puerperal Sepsis	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	....	....	....	....	....	....	7	4
Suicide	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
Other Deaths from Violence	....	....	....	....	....	....	5	2
Other defined Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	25	22
Causes ill-defined or unknown	....	....	....	....	....	....	2	—
Special Causes (included above)	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Polioencephalitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Death of Infants under 1 year	Total						11	12
	Illegitimate						1	—
TOTAL BIRTHS	....	....	....	....	....	....	231	236
Legitimate	....	....	....	....	....	....	225	230
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	....	....	6	6
POPULATION	....	....	....	....	....	....	25,270	

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Owing to the unprecedented paucity of infectious diseases in the District the capacity of your hospital was never taxed ; indeed, at times there were only one or two patients in residence. An epidemic may arise at any time, and in the past they have recurred every two or three years. Besides, there must be growing up in the community an increasing number of young people and children who have not been protected by a previous attack of the infectious fevers. Twenty-five patients were admitted into your hospital during the year, viz., diphtheria 14 ; scarlet fever 10 ; and measles 1. There were 4 in residence on December 31st. The conduct of the hospital has been entirely satisfactory.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE WORK

This work has been carried on as previously except that it has been expedited, and records are now kept of the visits to children at various ages. A new centre was opened at Rhoose, Penmark parish, on February 11th. Inquiries were made for suitable premises in the Beulah district. None such is available at present. This part of Whitchurch parish is increasing rapidly as a villa residential area, the inhabitants being mostly young married people with a high birth rate comparatively.

The midwives regularly practising in the rural district number 14, viz., trained 10, and untrained 4. Besides, there are many private nurses from Cardiff and elsewhere who attend occasional confinements in this area, and they are mainly to blame for neglecting to notify births. The general conduct of the cases by the nurses was commendable, as there was no case of puerperal fever, and the two cases of sepsis were due to accidental causes.

HEALTH VISITORS.

	Nurse G. James.	Nurse Rooney.
First Visits	303	160
Re-visits, 1st year	1,201	623
Re-visits, 1 to 5 years	694	847
Antenatal Visits	38	129
Special Visits....	—	16
Attendance at Centres	75	76

Dinas Powis Centre meets on alternate Wednesdays, and

deservedly enjoys great popularity, having an average attendance of 51 per session. This is largely due to the excellent committee of ladies, who are regular in their attendance, and each lady does the same duty at every meeting. Lady Davies and Mrs. W. H. Brain take special interest in this Centre. Mrs. Brain entertained a large party at Cwrt-y-rala on July 14th, the prize-giving day. There was also a popular Christmas Tree, when prizes were given to mothers for making bread, cake, baby's clothes, etc.

Pentyrch Centre met on alternate Thursday afternoons, the average attendance being 26. Owing to distance and hilly roads the weather greatly affects the number present at the meetings. The work done here is as valuable, if not more so, than at any other Centre. A successful Baby Show was held on 16th July, when Dr. Constance L. Griffiths adjudicated. Several ladies give much appreciated help in the work.

The Rhoose Centre, Penmark parish, was opened, as already stated, on 11th February, and 23 meetings were held on alternate Wednesdays during the year. The average attendance was 19. Nurse Rooney, health visitor, is superintendent, and Dr. A. Neilson of Barry the medical attendant. A good committee of ladies assist there regularly. A Baby Show was held on July 23rd, at which I officiated. I have no doubt that this Centre will improve in attendance and usefulness as the population is steadily increasing. Now that the sewerage scheme is in full operation, this site bordering on, and overlooking the Bristol channel, should assume great popularity as a residential spot. The only drawback is the Barry hard water, and that at a low pressure.

The Whitchurch Centre met every Tuesday afternoon. The average attendance was 35. This is rather below those of previous years owing to some very stormy afternoons. A successful Baby Show was held on July 14th, and the prize distribution was on July 21st at Benton House, where Mrs. Morgan Rees entertained a large garden party.

The "Maternity and Child Welfare Committee" attends every month at the Council's offices, when all matters appertaining to the Centres, and the reports, are considered.

As in former years, dried milk, lactagol, virol, etc., are dispensed at the different Centres, and grants of dried milk are made to necessitous cases after careful inquiries. These gratuities are usually of immense value.

HOUSING.

The all-important question of arrears of houses is being steadily overcome, and has received every consideration by the Council through the "Housing Committee." Since 1921 the number of new houses built yearly was 345 ; 43 ; (and 1092 transferred to Cardiff) ; 157 ; 174 ; and last year 280. The distribution of these last are given in the table supplied by Mr. Farrow, your surveyor.

TABLE V.

The following are the number of new houses erected in the District and occupied during the 51 weeks ended December 24th, 1925 :—

PARISH	Total number of houses erected.	Number granted subsidy.
Llanedarne	7	6
Llancarfan	2	1
Leckwith	2	—
Lisvane	4	—
Pentyrch	5	2
Penmark	10	3
Porthkerry	1	1
Radyr	13	—
St. Andrews	21	2
Sully	5	1
Whitchurch	210	56
TOTAL	280	72

There still remain a good many people who live in sheds, vans, and various temporary structures in different parts of the District, but no better accommodation is available yet. These premises are regularly supervised. There are also not a few instances of dual occupation of the newer villa residences, mostly by newly wedded couples. It is not harmful, it being only a question of economics. Your Sanitary Inspectors report having made 171, 185, and 472 house inspections respectively, to ascertain if the premises were in good repair and provided with satisfactory sanitary conveniences.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)). 230

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :

(i) By the Local Authority. —

(ii) By other bodies or persons. 72

1. *Unfit dwelling-houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 755

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. —

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 1

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 152

2. *Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 82

3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners. —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close. —

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | 117 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By owners. | 110 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. | |

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14, and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders. | — |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | — |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. | — |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. | — |
| (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. | — |

WATER SUPPLIES.

The provision of a good supply of pure water throughout the District has always been striven for, and the Council have required it to be laid on from the public mains wherever that has been possible. Wells and springs are systematically supervised; samples are sent to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis. This is demanded in the case of every new source. There was no serious shortage last summer.

An improved supply by you for Waterloo Terrace, Rudry, has removed the greatest cause of shortage in that parish. I inspected the Pentyrch reservoir recently, a fear of risk of pollution having been ventilated, but I found no grounds for it. An improved water supply is required for the Wenvoe Road cottages, Michaelston-le-Pit, and for the village of Aberthaw. The existing wells are defective and unsatisfactory. During very dry summers and shortage you have had water conveyed to Aberthaw from the mains at Rhoose.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The chief extensions of sewers carried out last year were (1) Surface water sewer, Milbrook, Dinas Powis ; (2) Surface water sewer in Church Road, Pantmawr Road, and Heoly-felin in Whitchurch parish ; and (3) extensions of sewer in North Road and Caegwyn Road.

During the last five years your Council have provided an entire new sewerage scheme for Lisvane village and populous parts of the parish ; for the village of Rhoose (Penmark) and adjacent roads ; also for a dozen new roads in Whitchurch parish

Sewerage schemes will be required in the near future for Creigiau (Penttyrch) ; for Wenvoe village ; for Sully ; and East Aberthaw (Penmark). Owing to certain events of the past year these demands have, I hope, got nearer the range of practical politics.

Inspector E. Jones reports that (1) New drains for slopwater and cesspool were provided at Tynycoed cottages, Rhubina, and the two old privies were converted to earth closets ; (2) New drains were provided in Lisvane, and connected with the Council's sewers ; (3) New drains, w.c. and washhouse supplied for 19 Tynyparc Road ; (4) New drains and w.c. with flushing cisterns provided to Deri Farm House, and for Greenhill Lodge cottage ; (5) New w.c. with flushing cistern and drainage to a new cesspool at Ffynon Wen Farm ; (6) Ten old privies at Draethen village were converted to earth closets.

The Council has had under consideration the provision of sanitary conveniences for St. Mary's Well Bay, in the parish of Lavernock. Many thousands of visitors go there in the summer, especially on Sundays, to bathe in the sea, and crowds resort also to Swanbridge, Sully, Rhoose, and Fontygary. They create a further nuisance by leaving in their trail a litter of bottles, papers and other refuse. If suitable receptacles and conveniences were provided and properly supervised, the serious existing nuisances could be largely obviated.

During the warm weather hundreds of persons occupy tents and caravans in these localities, and demand constant oversight on the part of your inspector so as to prevent nuisances occurring.

SCAVENGING.

This important work is in operation in all populous villages throughout the District, and even in the smaller ones some arrangement is made to remove house refuse at intervals of a week or so. The former are usually scavenged every two or three days. The inspector of No. 1 and 2 district express satisfaction at the manner in which the work was done during the year, but in No. 3 district Mr. Morgan has had a good deal of trouble with the contract for Penmark and Porthkerry parishes.

ROADS.

Every year the Council has effected improvements in all the main arteries of the area. The following were the chief additions last year:—(1) Improvement in Church Road, Whitchurch; (2) Widening of road at Castell Bach, Pendoylan; (3) Widening and improvement of Rhiwbina Road, Heol-y-deri and Beulah Roads, Whitchurch; and (4) Fontygary Road, Penmark. These works, your surveyor states, were carried out by direct labour.

PRIVATE STREET WORKS were also effected in Elmgrove Place, St. Andrews; in David Street, Beatrice Road and Brook Road; in Mervyn Road and Norman Road, Whitchurch. All these works not only tend to facilitate traffic and inter-communication, but also conduce to the comfort and safety of the inhabitants.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS.

The District Council, through its special committee, has given unremitting attention to this vital matter, and nowhere has a keener effort been made to comply with the provisions of the Milk and Dairies (Amenidment) Act, 1922, and the other powers conferred by the Public Health Acts. There has been close co-operation with the Glamorgan County Public Health Department.

Mr. Evan Jones, Inspector, District No. 1, reports as follows:—

Wholesale Purveyors added to Register, 8 ; removed				
from Register 6	....	....	Total	.... 91
Retailers added, 14 ; removed from, 3			Total	.... 48

The following details give the list of premises and the work carried out :—

PARISH	PREMISES	WORK CARRIED OUT
LLANEDARNE	“ Waenrhiddi ” farm	New floors, stalls, channel and drains to cowshed ; new building for washing utensils.
„	“ Tynynyffynon ” farm	New extension to cowshed, with drainage, lighting & ventilation.
„	“ Maesybryn ” farm	New roof to cowshed, and lighting.
LLANFEDW	“ Mount Pleasant ” farm	New floors and ventilation to cowshed.
„	“ Ty Gowla ” farm	Conversion of old barn to cowshed, with new roof floors, drains and windows.
LISVANE	“ Ty Llwyd ” farm	New premises for washing and steaming of utensils and storage of surplus milk. New water service.
„	“ Pantig farm ”	New floors and drainage to cowshed.
RHYDYGWERN	“ Rhydygwern ” farm	New floors to two cowsheds, and drainage, lighting and ventilation.
WHITCHURCH	“ Glanynant ” farm	New floors and channels to cowshed. New premises for washing of utensils.

PARISH	PREMISES	WORK CARRIED OUT
WHITCHURCH	" Deri " farm	New floors, lighting, ventilation and drainage to two cowsheds. New washhouse for cleansing of utensils.
„	" Ffynon Wen " farm	New washhouse for cleansing of milk utensils.
„	G. C. Legge, Pantbach Road	New washhouse for cleansing of milk utensils.
„	Francis Harris, Pantbach Road	New washhouse for cleansing of milk utensils.
„	No. 28 The Philog	New washhouse for cleansing of milk utensils, with steaming plant.

Mr. William Lewis, Inspector, No. 2 District, reports the number on Register :—

Cow keepers and Wholesale Purveyors	....	95
Retailers of Milk	.... ....	28
Total	....	123

Eight were removed from, and six added to, the Register. He made 382 inspections ; he testifies to the much greater care now taken by cowkeepers and their servants in dealing with milk. They are cleaner in their person and clothing, and the cows are kept cleaner. Thirty-two notices were served, and the following improvements effected during the year :—

LLANILLTERNE	" Pencoed " farm	Drains from cowsheds extended and new catch-pits provided. Also new milk store and cistern.
PETERSTON-S-ELY.	" Allt-laes " farm	Floor of cowshed improved, and a new cement gutter made.

PARISH	PREMISES	WORK CARRIED OUT
PETERSTON-S-ELY	" Llanwensan " farm	New floor and drainage provided for cowshed, and adjoining yard, water supply improved and new pump fixed to well.
ST. GEORGES	" Drope " farm	New floor and drainage for cowshed, new milk house.
"	County Council Small Holding	New drainage to cowshed and new milk house.
PENDOYLAN	" Maesaril " farm	New and improved cement channel in cowshed.
"	" Pengelly " farm	A new milk store for milk utensils.
ST. FAGANS	" Upper Stockland " farm	A new floor and cement channel to cowshed.
"	" Parc-y-felin " farm	A new floor and cement channel to cowshed.
ST. BRIDES-S-ELY	County Council Small Holding	New floors and drainage to cowsheds, improved light and ventilation to same. New milk store for milk utensils.
PENTYRCH	" Caerwen " farm	Improved drainage, lighting and ventilation provided to cowshed.
"	" Llwyn-Crain " farm	New floor and channel to cowshed.
RADYR	County Council Radyr Court Small Holding	New floors and channels to cowsheds, and improved paving and drainage for manure yard.
"	" Maesllech " farm	New milk house for storage and cleansing of milk utensils.

Mr. William Morgan, Inspector, No. 3 District, reports :—

Cowkeepers on Register	....	....	100
Retailers (of whom 18 are cowkeepers)	....	....	24
Average number of cows kept	....	....	1,201

Five names were removed from Register (3 retailers), and 482 inspections were made, and 35 defects were found, including deposit of manure too near, or want of cleanliness. The following are the main improvements carried out :—

1. Water laid on from the mains to premises of Mr. L. A. Birmingham, of Rhoose.
2. Home Farm, Duffryn, yard cemented.
3. Arga Farm, St. Andrews, yard cemented, drainage provided, and other works done.
4. Cross Farm, St. Andrews. Drain repaired.
5. Caia, St. Nicholas. Floor further improved.
6. Lower Farm, Michaelstone-le-pit. Floors, guttering, light, ventilation and other works done.
7. Cog Farm, Sully. New floor, stalls, ventilation and drainage provided.
8. Flaxland, Llancarfan. New floor, stalls and drainage provided.
9. Tywith, Wenvoe. Floor and guttering repaired.
10. Vians Hill, St. Nicholas. Drainage, guttering and window provided.
11. Upper Farm, Rhoose. Drainage, floors, guttering and windows for light and ventilation fixed.
12. Westra Farm, St. Andrews. Drainage provided.
13. Cosmeston, Lavernock. Pump repaired.
14. Typica, Wenvoe. New cement guttering provided.

15. Greenyard, St. Andrews. Floors and drainage provided.
16. Erw'r Delyn, St. Andrews. Guttering and manure pit provided.
17. Brynhill, Wenvoe. Drain and path in front of shed improved.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

These, which came into force on 1st April last, have considerably increased the work of your Inspectors, and in order to enable them to do the work properly they have been granted allowances to provide motor transports. There are now only eleven slaughter houses in the whole District, but a good deal of private slaughtering is being done by farmers. Butchers, farmers and others now regularly send the requisite notice of slaughtering to your Inspectors, so that the carcasses can be properly inspected as required by Statute. The following is a summary of the work done :—

	No. of Inspctns.	ANIMALS INSPECTED.				TOTAL
		Bullocks	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	
District 1	153	22	36	579	85	722
District 2	130	3	58	360	67	488
District 3	45	1	3	259	18	281

Edible portions of carcase or organs surrendered to Mr. Jones were 411lbs. To Mr. Wm. Lewis 28 livers affected with fluke ; hind-quarter discoloured as the result of fracture ; and a carcase of cow affected with tuberculosis. To Mr. Wm. Morgan 80 livers with fluke. The above were destroyed.

The slaughtering of animals was restricted for a period owing to outbreak of foot and mouth disease at Leckwith.

RAT WEEK.

The whole District was extensively circularised during the national campaign, and baits were laid on the scavengers' tipping

grounds with excellent results. More dead rats and mice were counted, and more replies were received from farmers, etc., than in previous years. Doubtless the beneficent work of this campaign will be realised in time, for these vermin are not only destructive of food and property, but are often the carriers of disease.

EXPLOSIVES AND PETROL STORES.

Licences in force 59. The number of petrol stores is steadily increasing with the great increase in motor traffic. These required systematic inspections, as the last of the negligent and thoughtless person has not blown himself up.

OMNIBUSES.

The District is well served with these conveyances, which are inspected periodically to ensure efficiency of brakes, emergency exits, etc. The Cardiff to St. Fagans and Capel route has now been extended as far as Creigiau.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There is no incident of note to record. The usual inspections were made so as to ensure proper cleanliness and the maintenance of sanitary provisions. Further reference to these is made on pages 5 and 6.

INSPECTOR'S REPORTS.

Appended are summaries of the activities of your three Sanitary Inspectors during the year :—

No. 1 DISTRICT.

MR. EVAN JONES, Cert. Sanitary Inspector.

The following Table shows the number and nature of the inspections carried out in this District during the year ended December 31st, 1925.

Particulars.	No. of Inspections	No. of defects and nuisances found	Preliminary notices served	Statutory notices served	Remedied
Houses inspected	171	76	41	40	76
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk shops (see special report)	501	—	—	—	See Sp. Report
Slaughter-houses and Butcher Shops (see special report)	217	—	—	—	See Sp. Report
Schools inspected	12	3	—	—	3
Houses disinfected	28	—	—	—	—
House drains choked and defective	70	62	51	21	62
Inspection of water closets and earth closets	33	20	12	6	20
New Houses inspected on completion for certificates under P.H. Water Act, 1878	232*	—	—	—	—
Cesspools emptied & cleansed	20	—	—	—	20
Inspection of refuse tips and disposal grounds	58	9	9	—	9
Inspections of factories and workshops	49	22	lime washing required	—	22
Inspection of petroleum and explosive stores	34	—	—	—	—
Inspections under Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919	108	—	—	—	—
	1533	192	113	67	212

* Llanedarne 9; Lisvane 3; Whitchurch 220.

No. 2 DISTRICT.

MR. WILLIAM LEWIS, Cert. Sanitary Inspector.

The following Table shows the number and nature of inspections the number of notices served, and the results of same during the year, 1925.

Particulars.	No. of In- spections	No. of defects and nuisances found	Prelim- inary notices served	Statu- tory notices served	Remedied
Number of Houses inspected	185	67	25	18	62
Number of Cowsheds & Dairies	382	32	18	12	26
Number of Slaughter-houses					
Meat shops	130	3	1	1	3
Number of carcases examined	488	—	—	—	—
Number of factories and workshops	26	4	2	1	4
Number of Schools	8	—	—	—	—
Number of Houses disinfected	6	—	—	—	—
Number of choked and defective drains found	—	21	16	8	20
Number of defective and damp walls	—	18	14	9	17
Number of defective roofs and floors	—	28	18	15	23
Number of defective windows	—	26	6	3	20
Number of Houses overcrowded	—	30	—	—	—
New Houses inspected and water certificates granted	16	—	—	—	—
Number of cesspools cleansed	—	12	6	—	12
Number of new closets provided	—	4	3	1	4
Number of workshops lime-washed	10	10	7	—	10
Number of petrol stores inspected	22	—	—	—	—
Number of explosive stores	12	—	—	—	—
Number of drains tested	7	3	—	3	3
Samples of water taken for analysis	4	—	—	—	—
Supervising scavenging	150	—	—	—	—
Number of poison baits laid for rats	160	—	—	—	—
Number of circulars sent out	82	—	—	—	—
	1688	258	116	71	204

No. 3 DISTRICT.

MR. WILLIAM MORGAN, Cert. Sanitary Inspector.

LIST OF NUISANCES ABATED, Etc.

	Inspection	Defects found	Remedied
The number of Houses inspected	472	—	—
Caravans and tents inspected	421	—	—
Miscellaneous inspections.....	53	—	—
Accumulations and deposits	—	32	22
Eastbrook Brook	—	—	1
Notice board repaired	—	1	1
Carcases washed up on Sully Beach : 1 horse, 7 dogs, 2 sheep	—	10	10
Cesspools cleansed.....	—	65	61
Cesspools provided(Llancadle 1)	—	1	1
Drainage provided—St. Nicholas 1, Llancadle 2	—	3	3
Drains repaired	—	26	19
Earth closets and water closets repaired and cleansed	—	18	16
Factories and workshops	15	—	—
Bakehouses and smithshops cleansed	—	—	6
Earth closet erected	—	1	1
Factories Registered 18			
Workshops Registered 19			
Houses repaired, thatched roofs and other repairs	—	70	54
Houses disinfected after cases of fever	—	5	5
Schools—closets cleansed and repaired	—	3	3
Scavenging visits, etc.	52	—	—
Water certificates granted	—	40	40
Water samples taken for analysis : Burton tap and Kenson wells, Penmark. Chemical 3, Bacteriological 3	—	—	6
Pumps repaired	—	2	2
Tins of condensed blown milk was reported to the Committee in December			
	1013	277	251

RAINFALL DURING YEAR 1925.

For this Record I am indebted to the courtesy of MR. C. H. PRIESTLEY, M.Inst.C.E., Water Works Engineer, Cardiff.

MONTH	LOCAL SECTION.						
	Rhiwbina Filters —	Lisvane Reservoir —	Llanishen Reservoir —	Heath Filters —	Trade Street Depot —	Ely Pumping Station —	Cogan Pumping Station —
	Elevation 336 feet.	Elevation 150 feet.	Elevation 155 feet.	Elevation 132 feet.	Elevation 45 feet.	Elevation 53 feet.	Elevation 121 feet.
January	5.72	3.87	4.18	4.66	3.80	4.38	3.92
February	7.62	5.41	5.47	6.10	5.79	6.27	5.70
March	.57	.61	.54	.47	.18	.44	.26
April	3.53	2.53	2.83	2.85	2.54	2.78	2.61
May	5.45	4.21	4.57	4.90	4.62	4.77	5.04
June	.00	.01	.02	.01	.13	.06	.12
July	4.87	4.77	4.43	4.16	3.61	4.13	3.55
August	5.83	5.35	5.41	5.26	5.29	6.26	6.76
September	6.11	5.59	5.66	5.83	5.59	5.36	5.56
October	7.05	5.88	6.03	6.43	6.65	6.00	6.37
November	2.99	2.58	2.49	2.65	2.98	2.68	2.53
December	4.62	3.74	3.49	4.39	4.23	4.13	4.21
TOTALS	54.36	44.55	45.12	47.71	45.41	47.26	46.63
Averages	51.41	39.14	39.58	41.30	40.97	43.03	38.07
Maximum	65.12 1924	61.53 1882	52.59 1924	56.27 1924	52.67 1924	56.73 1882	57.78 1882
Minimum	34.16 1921	22.50 1921	25.01 1921	26.83 1921	24.95 1921	27.08 1921	22.60 1921
No. of years	5 years	62 years	38 years	39 years	26 years	62 years	49 years

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MAY 6th, 1926.

R. PRICHARD, M.D., D.P.H.

